

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims, including the text of the claims, serves to replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A coplanar waveguide line comprising:

a substrate;

a central electrode strip on the substrate;

first and second electrode strips disposed on opposite sides of the central electrode strip and extending parallel thereto;

first and second optical waveguides on the substrate, the optical waveguides being positioned between the first and central electrode strips and extending parallel thereto;

the central electrode comprising at least one T-rail extending proximate to the first optical waveguide;

the first electrode comprising at least one T-rail extending proximate to the second optical waveguide;

the substrate comprising an n<sup>+</sup> electrically conducting layer extending between the optical waveguides;

wherein the coplanar waveguide line further comprises an electrical connection between first and second electrode strips.

2. (Original) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrical connection between first and second electrode strips is an airbridge.

3. (Original) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrical connection is wire bonded between the first and second electrode strips.

4. (Original) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrical connection between first and second electrodes extends through the back of the substrate.

5. (Previously Presented) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 1, comprising a plurality of electrical connections between first and second electrode strips, the electrical connections preferably being equally spaced.

6. (Previously Presented) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the central electrode strip and first electrode strip comprises a plurality of T-rails, preferably equally spaced.

7. (Previously Presented) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 1, wherein the T-rail comprises a contact pad electrically connected to the corresponding electrode strip by an airbridge.

8. (Currently Amended) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 7, wherein the contact pad abuts the optical waveguides waveguide.

9. (Previously Presented) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 1, wherein the substrate comprises a first isolation trench which extends through the n<sup>+</sup> electrically conducting layer between the first electrode strip and optical waveguides.

10. (Previously Presented) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 9, wherein the substrate comprises a second isolation trench extending through the n<sup>+</sup> electrically conducting layer between the central electrode strip and the optical waveguides.

11. (Previously Presented) A coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 10, wherein the substrate comprises a third isolation trench extending through the n<sup>+</sup> electrically conducting layer between the central electrode strip and the second electrode strip.

12. (Previously Presented) A Mach-Zehnder modulator including a coplanar waveguide line as claimed in claim 1.

13. - 16. (Cancelled).